



# The Ames Intelligencer

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Spring 1997



## 1997 A.H.A. Annual Meeting Celebration of Iowa Homesteading

Sunday, April 27, 1997

Program 2:00pm, McFarland Park Conservation Center

Open House 3-5pm, Bauge Log Home

Business meeting; Refreshments; Shuttle transportation to site

**Q: What was farming like for the first farmers who settled on the prairie in Story County?**

**Q: Why did Norwegian immigrant groups settle in central Iowa?**

**Q: What was day-to-day life like in a Norwegian family's log home in 1890?**

To learn the answers to these questions and other fascinating facts about early farming life in Story County, please join us on Sunday April 27.

Iowa State University graduate student Leo Landis was commissioned to research and create the Bauge Home Interpretive Program, so that we can tell a more lively story about life on the Iowa prairie. The program at 2:00pm, Sunday April 27 will showcase Leo's program for the first time.

### The Restoration Advances

A.H.A. members will also be able inspect recent advancements in the log home restoration - notably, completion of the lean-to floor, and placement of the loft stairway back to its 1890 location. Several recently donated period home furnishings will also be on display.

### Here are excerpts from Leo Landis' work: Location:

The Bauge home was located in Palestine Township, just north and slightly east of Huxley.

### Population:

The Bauge Home will be restored to the 1890 - 1910 time-period, when Anna and Lars Bauge lived there with their family. Total population in Iowa in 1910 was 2,224, 771. In Story County it was 24, 083, showing growth during the 10 year period from 1890 to 1910 even though population declined state-wide.



### Norwegian origins:

Lars Bauge traveled to the US at the age of two with his parents, Nels and Synneva Bauge in 1861. The family originally settled in Illinois, and moved to Story county in 1866. The Bagues engaged in diversified farming, and life in their home blended American and Norwegian culture in a rural society. The family still ate Norwegian meals such as kumla, a potato and ham dumpling, but seldom used Norwegian language in the home by the 1920's. The family reacted to the pressures of homogenizing cultural influences, but retained some of their European customs.

### Daily Routines:

Daily work on farms was determined by the sex of the individual, the season of the year and the farm production. Women and children often contributed labor to the production of crops and maintenance of animals. Men seldom crossed the gender lines to assist in the chores inside the home, or those considered inside the woman's sphere of work. Spring tasks usually involved farm and garden preparation, house cleaning and daily farm and home chores. Summer work included garden planting and maintenance, livestock care and crop planting and cultivation. Fall activities focused on crop harvest. In winter animals needed to be fed, wood or coal acquired and crops sold.



### Social and Recreational Activities:

Rural Story County residents were involved in a series of economic and social relationships. Farm families marketed and traded crops and produce in town. Church activities offered an opportunity to visit with neighbors. Anna Bauge belonged to a Lutheran women's social club. Church provided other outlets - group meetings and lectures. Holidays offered community activity opportunities. The Cambridge Dispatch estimated that four to five thousand people attended the 1896 July 4th festivities in Cambridge. Because of cool weather, the crowds proved large but "the peanut vendors and ice cream dealers did not realize such large sales." The entertainment included music from local bands, a reading of the *Declaration of Independence* and games such as foot races. The occasion blended patriotism and religion, and a local minister spoke on the progress of Christianity.

### Palestine Township Farm Production:

- In 1897-98, hog production was more than four times the production of cattle on most farms
- In 1897-98, wheat production was twice that of corn, on average.
- Between 1895 and 1910, production of hogs more than doubled, going for approximately 28,000 to 68,000/year.

A.H.A. gratefully acknowledges grant support from Friday Noon Kiwanis, which financed the Bauge Home Interpretive Program.

### Bauge Home Donations



A.H.A. gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following items, earmarked for use in the Bauge Log Home:

- Bev Kudla - children's clothes; cherry pitter
- Shelly Boyd - crock, wooden utensils
- Judy Casperson - garden materials (geranium, feverfew)
- Pauline Lawrence - log cabin-style quilt, woolen winter/summer comforter, two feather pillows & bedding, pair of spectacles, hand-made doll bed and doll, linen bag for men's collars
- Joanne Peterson - cast iron cooking pot, muffin tins, granite ware pans
- Jerry Litzell - interior door hardware



### Don't Miss The Expo

Iowa Heritage Expo 1997 will be June 12 - 14 at the State Historical Building in Des Moines.

This year's theme is *Vital Communities: Showcase the Past, Imagine the Future.*

Through workshops, lectures and performances, the conference will explore the common traits that vital communities share and explore how cultural institutions can influence the vitality of Iowa's communities.

As always, there will be sessions for history "buffs" as well as a nuts-and-bolts information for professionals. Call 515-281-6412 for registration information.

### Story County Historical Summit

All but one Story County community was represented on January 4 at the first Story County Historical Summit. The Summit was organized by the County Sesqui-centennial Commission as its last official act in the 1996 celebration of Iowa's 150th birthday. Tom Morain, head of the state historical society, acted as moderator in what proved to be a helpful and eye-opening session for history-minded people in the county.

Each Summit attendee explained historical projects in their respective communities, and those present gained a better understanding of what exists, and what is planned or being dreamed about. Morain was skillful in stimulating thinking about who the audience is or would be for various facilities, and encouraged all communities to focus on their completely unique stories, rather than replicating multiple general-history museums.

The group made a decision to meet quarterly, and to use the sessions as workshops to increase learning on museum or tourism topics. Any interested person may attend. The second Summit was planned for Saturday April 12, in Maxwell.



## Time Capsule Nears Readiness

The following items are gathered for the time capsule to be buried outside Youth & Shelter Service's renovated headquarters at 5th and Kellogg. The items were collected to give a glimpse of life in Ames in 1996.

Autographed copy of *Ames, The Early Years in Word and Picture*, by Farwell T. Brown

Aerial photograph of Iowa State University

Iowa State University General Catalog, 1996-97

Iowa Games 10 Year Anniversary program & medal

Chamber of Commerce Membership Directory 1996

Welcome Guide to Ames & ISU for new ISU students

D.O.T 1997-2001 Transportation Improvement Plan

City of Ames 1996-2001 Capital Improvement Plan

City of Ames 1996-97 Program Budget

City of Ames 1996 Financial Report

Ames Public Library 1995-96 Annual report

Ames Water Treatment Plant history & tour brochures

City of Ames utility, water and sewer rates

City of Ames 1996-97 employee pay plan

City of Ames Electrical System 100th Anniversary book

City of Ames Parks & Recreation program booklet

Sister City certificate with Czech republic

City of Ames Accident Report 1996

City of Ames Resident Satisfaction Survey 1996

City Side newsletter, Nov/Dec 1996

"Snow Happens" City of Ames brochure

Summer 1996 guide to summer street construction

Over view of phone book changes (newspaper story)

Residential report showing current housing statistics

Iowa Sesquicentennial: license plate, newsletters, source

book, program from Statehood Day Celebration

Child contest results for time capsule

1996-97 Ames telephone book

1995-96 ISU Fact Book

ISU Campus Art brochure

Reiman Gardens brochure

1996 Odyssey of the Mind World Finals program

Ames Bulletin Board 1996 issues

Arts seasons & organizations info from Iowa State

Center, University Museums, Ames Community Arts

Council, ISU Theaters, Town & Gown, Central Iowa

Symphony, ACTORS, Veishea, Public Art Commission

Retailer info: Downtown, North Grand Mall

YSS Annual report & History Plaza information

Ames map, Iowa map, CyRide route map

1996 Ginkgo Festival program; Ames visitors guide

Church info: Memorial Lutheran, Korean United

Methodist, Unitarian, Northminster Presbyterian, United

Church of Christ Congregational, 1st Baptist, First

United Methodist, Ames Jewish Congregation, New Life

Pentecostal, St. John's By The Campus, 1st Christian

Ames museum planning & Ames Heritage Assn. info

Misc. Ames restaurant menus

1996 Historic Home tour program

WOI radio program guide highlighting Iowa Week

Misc. brochures about computers

ISU's report to Iowans

Issue of Alumni Association's *Visions Magazine*

Iowa DED Quick Community Reference for Ames

ISU Fact Sheet for Sept. 1996 & Organization Chart

1996 election issues summary

Math-In-Context story from newspaper

Ames High School Registration Book

Ames Schools Staff Directory

Ames Schools 1996-97 Budget

1996-97 Ames Women's Club program book & directory

Misc. newspaper advertising for food, cars, housing etc.

Misc. 1996 year-end summary stories highlighting

various organizations or facets of the community

The capsule will be buried sometime after the Y.S.S. Dedication ceremony in mid-July. Space constraints in the water-proof container mean that the capsule is mostly full, however, questions about adding items may directed to Kathy Svec at 515-232-4877.

## Museum Planning Group

### Hires Consultants



The Association's museum planning group hired two consultants for expert help with the next phase of the project. Funding is provided by a state of Iowa grant through REAP/HRDP \*, a 3M gift, Ames Foundation, City of Ames and Heritage Association memberships.

Terry Grapentine of Ankeny will begin April 23rd to conduct market research through focus groups and telephone surveys to ascertain community support for the museum project. Through a series of questions, Mr. Grapentine will gauge citizen interest in a museum, compared to other community needs.

Given a favorable outcome from these surveys, the planning group will participate in several workshops by Catherine Reid Day, Minneapolis, MN to define the parameters of the projects, to attach costs and begin mapping out a funding plan. Both consultants should complete their work by the end of the summer.

\* Resource Enhancement And Protection  
Historic Resource Development Program

## Time To Renew! ⌚ ⌚ ⌚ ⌚ ⌚ ⌚ ⌚ ⌚

If you have not already sent in your membership renewal for 1997, you may do so by mailing a check made out to Ames Heritage Association to PO Box, 821, Ames, Iowa 50010. Dues for individual members are \$20 for 1997.

Additional donations earmarked for specific projects are gratefully accepted.

Dues fund maintenance of Hoggatt School, restoration of the Bauge Home, publishing of this newsletter and museum planning, among other projects.

**Won't you ask a friend to join?**



## Judge Joseph Story Goes to School



A framed print of a pen-and-ink drawing of Story County namesake, Joseph Story, will be given to county schools and the courthouse by the county Sesquicentennial Commission. Story County was consistently in the top five among Iowa counties in sales of the commemorative license plate, the primary fund-raiser for county

sesquicentennial activities. Story County twice received a \$1000 bonus for being in the top five, and the framed print was funded by the bonus.

The drawing is by Chicago artist, Jack Lund, a former Story City resident. Each print will display the following caption:

### Joseph Story, 1779 - 1845

"However high one may climb in the legal profession," Edward Everett once said, "one will always find one Story higher." This tribute to Supreme Court Justice Joseph Story was meant to be funny, but at the same time recognized the impressive things he accomplished. Born in Massachusetts, Story lived at a time when many clever and intelligent people practiced law, but he stood out even among all those capable people. By the end of his life, he had served more than 40 years on the United States Supreme Court. He had written about many subjects in the law in a way that helped people understand important ideas, and had taught for many years at Harvard University. He was famous all over the world. Story was also well-known for being a generous and thoughtful person. When he died in 1845, Chief Justice Roger Taney, suggested that he would be missed as much for his "kindness of heart" as for his remarkable abilities.

Story County, Iowa, was named for Joseph Story.

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**Ames Intelligencer**  
**Ames Heritage Association**  
**PO Box 821**  
**Ames, Iowa 50010**

## See Our Exhibits!

On view now in Department of Transportation's main lobby is an exhibit co-sponsored by City of Ames Electric Utility and Ames Heritage Association. The exhibit tracks the history of the department, which celebrated its 100th anniversary last year.



An exhibit on the history of livery services in Ames, and the railroad depot will be featured at the Ames Public Library, 515 Douglas, May 8 to June 7, 1997.

### Ames Heritage Association Board:

President: Kathy Svec; Vice-president: Don Faas;  
Secretary: Nancy Osborn Johnson; Treasurer: Bill LaGrange;  
Sharon Wirth, Jack Adams, Coleen Nutty, Kay Beckett, Rollie Struss,  
Willie Struss, David Ballard, Jr., Evelyn Thielen, Lois Vohs

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The Ames Heritage Association is a legally incorporated, not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting interest in state and local history through educational publications, programs and displays. The Board meets the 3rd Monday of each month, September - June. Interested persons are welcome.

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The Ames Intelligencer is named after an early Ames newspaper and is published three times a year for Association members. Comments or questions may be directed to the Editor.

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